

## **Transit for Connecticut**

*Helping People, the Economy and the Environment*

Appropriations Committee

Public Hearing – February 16, 2012

HR 5014 An Act Making Adjustments to State Expenditures and Revenues for the Fiscal  
Year Ending 6/3012

Dear Sen. Harp, Rep. Walker and members of the Committee,

On behalf of Transit for Connecticut, a statewide coalition of 32 business, environmental, social service, planning and transportation organizations advocating for improved and expanded bus service, I request the Appropriations Committee reconsider the proposed reductions to the bus and rail operations and ADA subsidies based on newly imposed fare increases.

In these critical economic times, transit is needed more than ever. Investment in transit creates jobs and transit gets people to their jobs.

Revenue generated by increased fares should be used to maintain and improve service. Improved transit offers residents an option to driving on congested roads. Riding transit instead of driving a car saves money and helps the environment by reducing the number of pollutants emitted into the air.

The proposed reductions to bus and rail operations and ADA subsidies are a step backward. To help improve the economy and environment, more investment in transit is needed, not less. Please allow revenue from fare increases to be used to benefit the riders who pay the fares.

Thank you for your consideration.

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